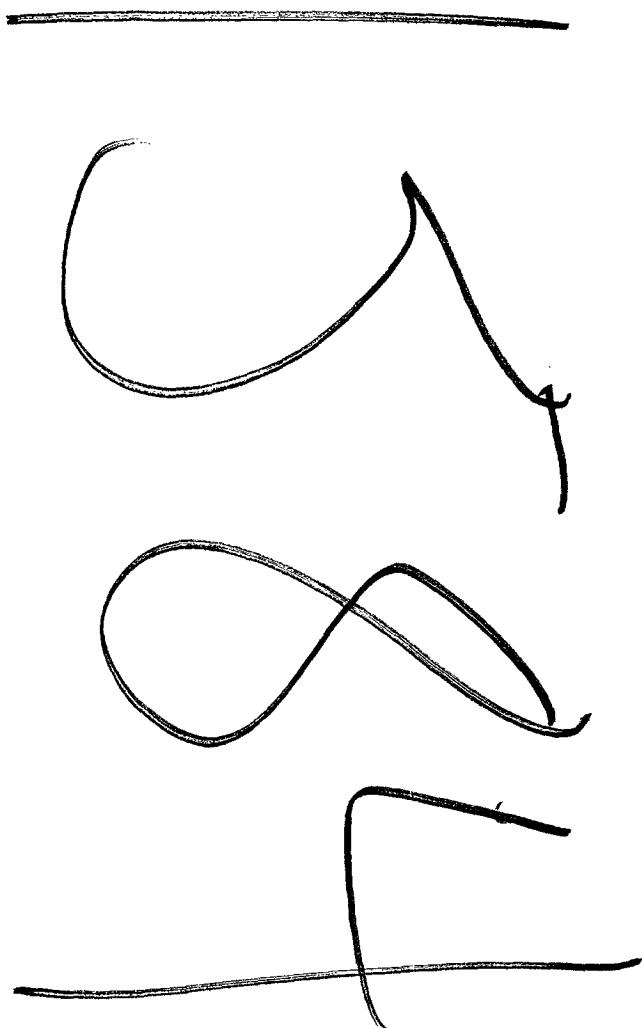


Gipin, del 78



## CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Appendix A

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE October 9, 1978

FULL NAME J.  
 (No initials if you can possibly give full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED]CITY Ashland STATE Kentucky ZIP CODE 41101DATE OF BIRTH 2/8/54 (This is important and should be exact)APPROXIMATE AGE 24 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)RELIGION  NATIONALITY U. S. CitizenOCCUPATION Student in [REDACTED] School of NursingEDUCATION [REDACTED] Blazer High School, Ashland, KentuckyWEIGHT 160 HEIGHT 5' 10" RACE WhiteCOLOR OF HAIR Black COLOR OF EYES Wears glassesOUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS MARRIED OR SINGLE Single CHILDREN -WIFE'S NAME -SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	OFFICE	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
--------	------	-------	--------	-----------------	---------------

SPECIAL RECOGNITION Eagle Scout - Vigil in Order of the Arrow

## SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Advances made to Scout at summer camp

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND  
ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE  
OR SPECULATION):

Statements previously mailed to Registration.

NOTED

DEC 5 1978

Signed

[REDACTED] 40  
SCOUT EXECUTIVECouncil Tri-State Area Council #672

CONF010152

Jim

Here is a copy of the announcement  
of the conviction of [REDACTED]  
This should be sent to National

The Billings Gazette

Saturday, May 30, 1987 17-A

**Convicted:**

District Court jury has convicted a Billings man of two counts of sexual assault involving two young girls last fall. Jurors deliberated about five hours Thursday before returning the guilty verdicts against [REDACTED] 33, of 1244 Crawford Dr. District Judge G. Todd Baugh will sentence [REDACTED] July 1 after a pre-sentence investigation has been completed. [REDACTED] as accused of fondling two girls — ages 11 and 12 — at their Billings home last Oct. 31.

Pain

THIS INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN  
REPORTED PREVIOUSLY.

TAB SK. A-315

C The Billings Gazette

Saturday, May 30, 1987 17-A

## Convicted:

District Court jury has convicted a Billings man of two counts of sexual assault involving two young girls last fall. Jurors deliberated about five hours Thursday before returning the guilty verdicts against [REDACTED], 33, of 1244 Crawford Dr. District Judge G. Todd Baugh will sentence [REDACTED] July 1 after a pre-sentence investigation has been completed. [REDACTED] was accused of fondling two girls — ages 11 and 12 — at their Billings home last Oct. 31.



# Montana Council Boy Scouts of America

[Redacted address block]

SERVICE CENTERS

[Large black redacted area]

January 6, 1987

Paul Ernst  
Registration, Subscription  
and Statistical Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
1325 Walnut Hill Lane  
Irving, Texas 75038-3096

Dear Paul:

Please add the attached news clipping to the file on [redacted] should he again request registration with the Boy Scouts of America. We would have yet another reason to deny that registration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]  
[Redacted]  
Scout Executive

gh

F. STARON  
1/19/87



CONF010155

The Billings Gazette

Wed., Dec. 31, 1986 5-C

## City man charged in sexual assault

A 32-year-old Billings man was arraigned Tuesday on charges of sexually assaulting two pre-teen girls on Halloween.

[REDACTED], 32, of 1244 Crawford Drive, was arraigned in Justice Court on two counts of felony sexual assault.

According to court documents, [REDACTED] is charged with going to the home of a friend on Oct. 31, and touching and fondling the friend's daughters, age 12 and 11.

One of the girls wrote her mother a note Nov. 9, saying that [REDACTED] had assaulted the two girls, court papers say.

[REDACTED] was released on his own recognizance and his case remanded to District Court.

PATTEN & RENZ

[REDACTED]  
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59101  
[REDACTED]

June 2, 1983

JAMES A PATTEN  
JEFFREY T RENZ

OF COUNSEL  
FRED N DUGAN

Mr. J. L. Tarr  
Chief Scout Executive  
Boy Scouts of America

[REDACTED]  
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Re: Mr. Joel Gilpin

Dear Mr. Tarr:

We represent Mr. Joel Gilpin, a former scout leader in the Tri-State Area Council No. 672 (West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky.) Mr. Gilpin presently resides in Billings, Montana.

In 1976, three scouts accused Mr. Gilpin of having had sexual relations with them. An investigation was undertaken and Mr. Gilpin was completely exonerated of the charges. (See enclosure.) One of the scouts involved later contacted Mr. Gilpin, admitted that he had lied, and apologized for the incident.

In 1977, the effects of these false charges had not subsided and Mr. Gilpin was removed from the troop roster. (See enclosures.)

Mr. Gilpin subsequently moved to Billings, Montana, where he again became active in scouting and in Big Brothers. Accusations such as that above apparently never die. When the local scout troop went through the re-registration process this year, it included Mr. Gilpin's name as an assistant troop leader. A very strong communication, this time from the B.S.A.'s National Headquarters, was sent to the local council apparently directing that Mr. Gilpin was not to be associated in Scouting activities. It appears that this order was based upon the 1976 charges of which, we have noted, he was completely exonerated. Within six hours of this order, and based upon the B.S.A.'s communication, Mr. Gilpin was suspended from the Big Brothers program.

It is our understanding that, when the National Headquarters directs that a person not be involved in scouting activities, such a communication implies that that person has been involved in damning activities, such as criminal misconduct, drug use, alcohol abuse, physical abuse of a scout, or sexual misconduct.

Mr. Gilpin is unaware of and apparently has never been advised of any other incident which would disqualify him from participating in scouting.

CONF010157

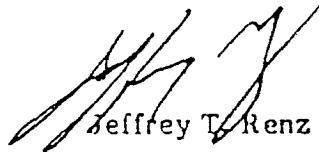
Mr. J. L. Tarr  
June 2, 1983  
Page two

We have advised Mr. Gilpin that the communications between various Scout headquarters constitute a defamation of his character and that he may have a claim for damages against the Boy Scouts of America. We need not advise you that false charges of illegal sexual activities (that is, homosexual relations with minors) are very serious, especially when they surface 2000 miles and seven years from the place and date Mr. Gilpin had been found to be innocent.

Mr. Gilpin presently has no desire to sue the B.S.A. for monetary damages. He only wishes to quash these false accusations and become reinvolved in Scouting.

Accordingly, on Mr. Gilpin's behalf, we must demand that the Boy Scouts of America close and seal its file, including any communications, regarding the 1976 incident and further, formally withdraw its objection to Mr. Gilpin's participation in the Boy Scouts of America. We would recommend that you confer with your attorneys on the law of libel and slander and with regard to your potential exposure to actual and punitive damages.

Sincerely,



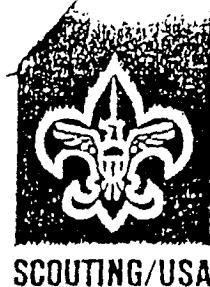
Jeffrey T. Renz

JTR/jab

cc: Mr. Joel Gilpin

83R-30

CONF010158



A program for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers

National Office  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

MAILED 05PM 04/14/83  
FOR DMR  
FILED NY  
CBP

April 14, 1983

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Montana Council, No. 315

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Thank you for the return of the confidential inquiry concerning J. [REDACTED]. We are refusing registration at this time based on the information which you have given us. Mr. [REDACTED] was placed on the Confidential File in 1978 and we feel that he should not have association with youth at this time.

A credit notice is attached returning the \$5.00 fee which was sent to us.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

eko

Attachment

cc: North Central Region  
Mr. [REDACTED] Area Director, North Central Region

CONF010159



SCOUTING/USA

MAKE [REDACTED] FOR:  
DAN FERGASON X  
BOB KOLTERMAN  
BOB JOTHSON  
BOB GOFF  
BOB FARNWELL

A program for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers

National Office  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
[REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED]  
Liability Supervisor  
[REDACTED]

Great Falls, MT 59403

Re: Boy Scouts of America ESIS Contract 0835  
Claimant: Joel Gilpin D/I: 5/1/83

[REDACTED]

Confirming our conversation today, I am enclosing Notice And Acknowledgement, Summons, Complaint, and a Request To Produce filed against us in the U.S. District Court, District of Montana, under CB83-283-BLG. This service was received on November 14, 1983, and we have 20 days after date of service in which to answer. Will you please assign this to an attorney and ask him to request a delay in the Motion To Produce? He and our Legal Counsel, David Park (phone No. [REDACTED]), will need to discuss what has to be furnished under the Motion To Produce.

We have a rather complete file on this situation, but do not want to furnish it until after the assigned attorney and Mr. Park have been able to visit on it. The action brought is for liable and slander, which is covered under our general liability policy written through the Insurance Company of North America. This policy, of course, has limits of \$500,000 and a deductible of \$500,000, and we then have a contract with ESIS, Inc. Surely will appreciate your having the assigned attorney answer before our 20 days are up and secure an extension on the Motion To Produce. Will you please let me know the name of the attorney and law firm who will answer?

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Director  
Insurance & Risk Management

Attachments

cc: Dan [REDACTED]  
✓ GR [REDACTED]

HCF/jm

CONF010160

JOEL R. GILPIN

[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

JUN 9 1976

REC'D

1-17-84  
Perry

Dear Mr. Lee,

Enclosed you'll find a check made out to  
[REDACTED] ticket sales refund from the Scout Show.

Evidently there is an error, an honest one, before  
that has caused me a lot of personal anguish. Let  
me explain.

As of April 22, I have not been Scoutingmaster,  
or even associated with [REDACTED] for some as yet  
unknown reason, three of my older Scout patrols  
told of how I had made several advances upon one of  
them, and the other two backed him up. Stories were  
told, lies were made, and one thing led to another. It  
finally boiled down to either I would remain as  
Scoutingmaster and discharge several Scouts from the troop,  
or I could quit, allowing them to remain. I chose  
the latter of the two.

As of yet, I have received no consolation,  
no threat, no anguish, nothing, as to my resignation.  
Upon asking, I found the SA of [REDACTED]

I didn't know! My troop's commissioners had  
not been informed. And as I say, I have yet to have  
one parent call and inquire as to the reason of my leaving!  
Yesterday, I've found this to be very hard to take  
and has been the cause of much soul searching as I've  
enjoyed the work with the BSA and, really, that was  
my life.

Bad to top it off, I still receive mail from the BSA  
office addressed to me as Scoutingmaster, pamphlets called  
me the other day with a [REDACTED] thinking I was Supt, and  
in doing business with [REDACTED] recently, he seems  
to believe that I am responsible for my resignation.

CONF010161

All of these things are, frankly, "things in an already  
grasped hand" and really hurt when I receive notices  
or talk to people who act as if nothing had happened.  
And yes, a transfer form from SIS to SMC has  
been sent to your office.

[REDACTED] am writing this letter with many  
mixed emotions. I don't know whether to get angry or  
sit down and cry. I feel I've gotten no support or no  
help from the District Chairman, parents of clients, or Council  
officials at a time when a Scoutingmaster was ~~meant~~ accused  
of the ~~supposedly~~ could have been.

I'm not asking for my removal from your files as  
I am staying registered in order to stay informed as to  
the events of the Council, but to be referred to as  
Scoutingmaster is upsetting me!

Please inform your registries as to this change and  
perhaps, if I can, someday I try to return as a leader  
in an organization that I began to be of more benefit  
to the lives of young men than any other organization  
in existence today.

Wishing you continued success in all Scouting  
endeavors, I remain

Sincerely yours,

June 11, 1977

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter and must confess that I knew of no problem.

I have, as you requested, changed our records and have mailed the check to the Troop.

If I had been informed, I would have immediately checked it out. I am having our Field Director H. D. Cory, III look into the matter.

Thanks for taking the time to inform me.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive

WRC:ame

cc:  
[REDACTED]  
JG

CONF010163

JUN 15 1976

JOEL R. GILPIN

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

June 13, 1976

Mr. [REDACTED]  
Tri State Area Council, BSA

[REDACTED]  
Huntington, W.Va. 25701

Dear Bob,

In reply to your letter of June 11, I will begin by quoting an old saying that goes "nothing is stranger than truth itself". Let me, please, bring you up to date as to the events surrounding the scandal in which I'm involved.

You probably received my letter on Wednesday, June 9. On the next day, Thursday, June 10, I was approached by a Scoutmaster who is a private investigator for a reputable investigative service. Having heard that I had dropped out of [REDACTED] he extended an invitation to come to his Troop. I replied something to the effect that it would be best for his Troop if I weren't to do that. He asked me why and so I told him the situation. He was immediately interested and concerned as we, though not the best of friends, have a mutual respect for each other because of the role we play in Scouting. He said he would see what he could do. I was appreciative of his help and promised cooperation toward the goals of 1. finding the person(s) responsible, 2. finding what had been said amongst the Scouts of T148 in order to 3. determine whether or not I would be accepted if I were to return as a leader.

On Friday, June 11, after consulting the one Scout of the three involved who, in late April called and apologized to me personally, my investigator got in touch with me and agreed that something was "fishy" and thought it a good idea to talk to a Scout [REDACTED] who was level headed, responsible, had good rapport with the Scouts, and one whom I considered to be a close friend who could be trusted. I, after much consideration, decided to call upon a Scout who certainly met all these qualifications whom I shall refer to as [REDACTED]

I called [REDACTED] on Friday, June 11, and asked if he would consider telling me what had been said about me. He said no, he wouldn't. I asked if he would tell a third party, namely a private investigator, and he replied that he would rather not become involved. I then told him that I would honor his wishes.

However, with much personal reputation at stake, I had a talk with [REDACTED] father, a respectable Ashland businessman, on June 12. I approached him

CONF010164

(R-1e)

July 21, 1977

Troop 1 [REDACTED] file

July 25th-- 7:00 PM. -Meet at church  
Soccer Ball in Park  
Return to church 8:30 PM.

August 1st- NO MEETING

August 8th- NO MEETING

August 15th- Leave Church at 5:30 PM for picnic and swim  
at Carter Caves. Return to church at 10:00 PM.

August 22nd- TLC Meeting, [REDACTED] house 7:00 PM. (Leaders only).

August 29th 7:00 PM, Start regular weekly meetings.

[REDACTED], who for the past four years has served as Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster of our Troop has resigned as Assistant Scoutmaster, effective immediately. He will no longer participate in any of the Troop activities. [REDACTED] will attend Marshall University this fall as a full time student. We thank him for his service to the Troop and wish him well in his schooling.

1005 Q-11  
DS

CONF010165

October 12, 1971

[REDACTED]  
Mc[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has requested that you be removed from their Troop roster for reasons of which you are aware.

Enclosed is a check for \$4.50 which covers a full refund for your adult registration and O.A. dues.

You no longer should be involved with Scouting or its related activities such as the Order of the Arrow.

I am sure that you understand the situation is that no further action will be necessary.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Field Director

HDCIII:ame

cc:

[REDACTED]

CONF010166

[REDACTED]  
Ashland, KY  
October 20, 1977

[REDACTED]  
Tri State Area Council

[REDACTED]  
Huntington, W.Va. 25701

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Enclosed you'll find the check for \$4.50 sent to me recently which I am returning. I will not accept it as such action on my part would imply that I am guilty of wrongdoings, which I am not.

To my knowledge, no official of [REDACTED] has asked that my name be removed from the roster. Please check your source if you feel this is not true.

Concerning your command that I drop out of Scouting and Order of the Arrow activities, I will not do so at this time with the implications you have made in your letter of October 12.

Why? The last correspondence I had was from you and [REDACTED] in August of 1976 which cleared me of all allegations of my being a homosexual. Now, out of the "clear blue sky" you strongly urge, almost demand, that I quit, that I know why and that no further action will be necessary.

Whatever happened to the ideal that one is innocent until proven guilty? Is it to be attempted to oust me from Scouting without so much as a hearing at which time I could present my arguments? You and Tri State Area Council seem to be making some rather harsh insuations without all the facts.

For the record, I had planned to let my registration expire this coming March and not be active-not even visit-in anything Scouting. I have not been for three months, nor plan to be until March, active in any way whatsoever in Scouting. But now, I have no choice than to be active in some small way until March to signify that I am not allowing myself to be dropped from Scouting by the local Council.

Should you wish to make amends, a letter stating that I am not being "kicked out" will do nicely. I will not be intimidated- we are dealing with defamation of character, namely mine.

I trust you can see my point of view and will take the necessary steps to correct the accusing attitude conveyed to me in your letter. Until then, I remain

In Scouting,



June 1, 1978

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear [REDACTED]

I must have your help if we are to eliminate the problem that we discussed at the Scout Show. As I told you, I am concerned only with the well-being of the boys we serve and do not feel that leadership of this type is needed in Scouting. I am willing to take a personal stand and eliminate this situation but cannot do it alone.

I feel that we have two directions that we can go and still control the problem. One is that you secure personal statements in detail of what actually happened. These statements must be specific but will be confidential and not for public use. The alternative is that you set up a meeting so that I can meet with the boys involved and let me secure the statement.

The easiest thing is to forget it and let him register in the other troop but the easiest thing is not always the best for the boys we serve. It's in your hands. Please let me know what you decide.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive

WRC:ame

cc:

[REDACTED]

CONF010169

on the grounds of permission for my investigator to approach his son and ask him some questions concerning this mess which [REDACTED] father already had heard about. [REDACTED] father was very understanding, but said that my call the previous evening had upset his son tremendously and that he was concerned about the effects a confrontation of this sort would have upon his son and doubted if any real good would come out of it.

This started me to seriously consider my priorities. I realized only after my conversation with [REDACTED] father that my needing to know the facts would be hurting others, namely people such as [REDACTED] that I have the utmost respect for, and admiration, and whom I have no desire to upset or hurt. I also realized that I could handle the emotional strain that is connected with this much better than that of a 14-15 year old young man. I saw that getting the facts would be "winning the battle but losing the war" as I would perhaps know the full story but would never be accepted as a leader of T 148 as too many toes would be stepped on in the process.

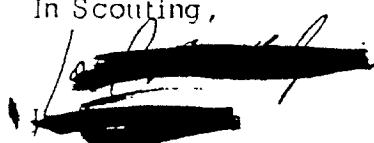
Therefore, I wish to go on record as asking that the following requests be honored:

1. As of now, no inquiries of any nature are to be directed to any Scout, Scouter, or adult concerning this matter
2. Any inquiries to the reason of my leaving my position as SM be directed to either myself or [REDACTED]
3. An attitude of forget the whole thing be adopted with the hopes that in the near future I may return to [REDACTED]. If I can return, I will not mention this matter to anyone and will take the attitude that two other Scouts involved will be treated by me with the utmost respect and courtesy as I attempt to do to all the Scouts of the Troop. I will forgive and forget.

[REDACTED], I am sure your head is swimming with all this, but by placing the events in order as I have done, I hope to help straighten things out. I must say that I am grateful for your interest and support. It indicates to me that the professionals of our Council are interested and willing to help when alerted to problems. I will not forget this and will try to support the Council in all of its activities.

Please feel more than welcome to contact me for any further details or to have any questions answered. Again, I am grateful to you, and wish success in all your future endeavors.

In Scouting,



cc: H.D. Cory III  
R. Gordon Scott  
Bill Sercy

August 28, 1978

To: Tri-State Area Council-BSA

From: [REDACTED] Scoutmaster-Troop 148

Subject: Incident at Arrowhead-Summer Camp, July 15, 1977

[REDACTED] attended Summer Camp at Arrowhead the week of July 10, 1977. I was the only adult leader, with fourteen boys.

[REDACTED] was a registered Assistant Scoutmaster at the time, however, he had been inactive. Joel had volunteered to bring a pick-up truck up Friday night, July 15th, and take a load of gear back Saturday when camp was over.

[REDACTED] arrived Friday night, with [REDACTED], who was also a registered Scout in our Troop. I offered [REDACTED] the empty bunk in my tent, but he said he would rather sleep on the picnic table under the tarp, so [REDACTED] slept in my tent.

When I went to sleep, [REDACTED] was in bed on the picnic table, and several Scouts were sitting around the camp fire.

The following morning we broke camp, attended retreat and started home. The following story was told on the way home.

[REDACTED] said that he, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had ended up in their sleeping bags by the fire the night before and had intended to spend the night there. [REDACTED] said he was telling me because the boys were embarrassed to tell me. [REDACTED] was present at the incident but he did not see what went on and he did not hear all of the conversation, but [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had told him about it later.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had gotten up during the night and came over to the fire and sat down beside [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] put his hands in the sleeping bag and ran them up and down [REDACTED]'s leg. He did the same thing to David after Lawrence had left. After [REDACTED] left, [REDACTED] went to his tent also.

The statements of the three Scouts are attached.

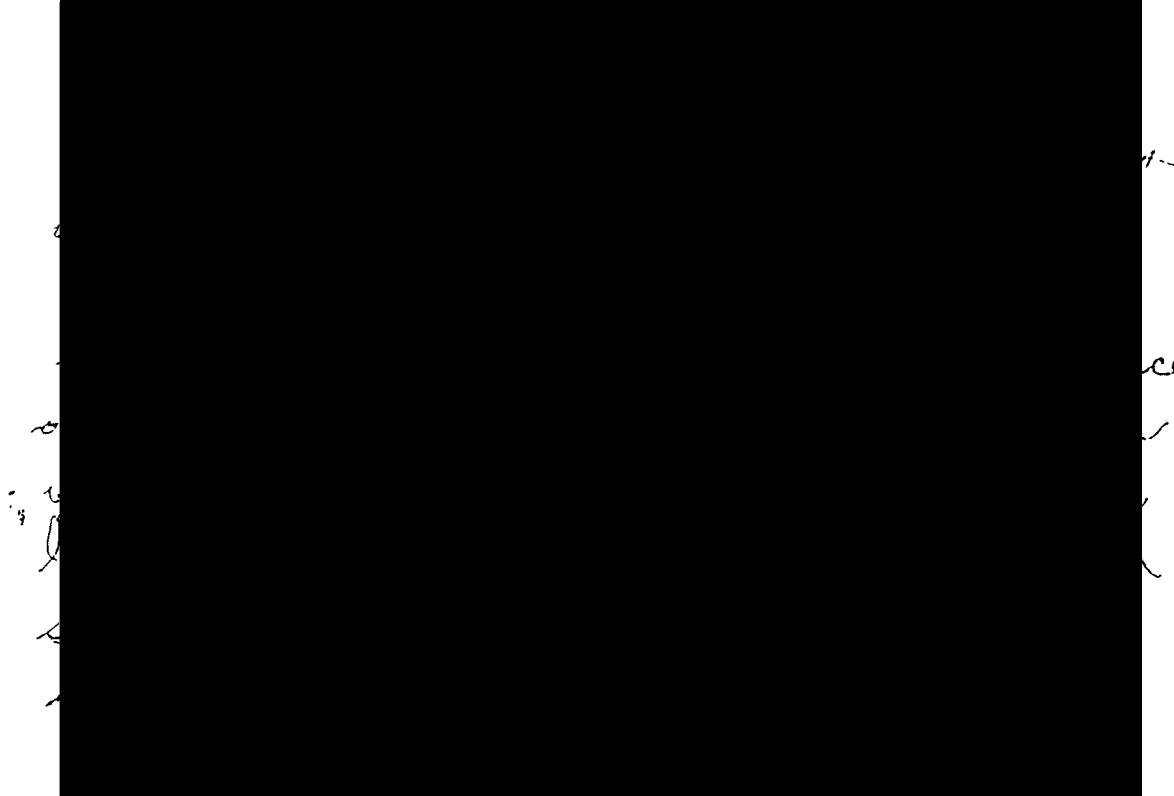
When I talked to [REDACTED] about this he denied it impatiently.

I told [REDACTED] that I did not want him to participate in any troop activities and that I would not reregister him when our Charter expired 3=31=78. [REDACTED] said he would be going to school full time and did not plan to reregister. I contacted all Scouts and parents of the Troop and told them [REDACTED] would be involved in no Troop activities, and would be dropping out of Scouting to attend school full time.

I personally feel that [REDACTED] should not be an adult volunteer in the Scouting program.

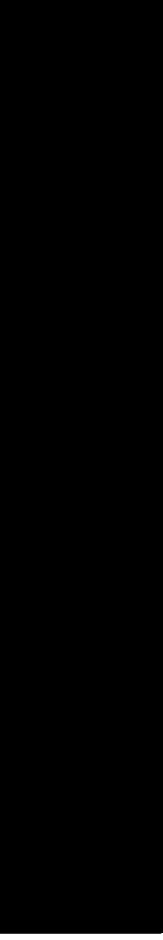
CONF010171

Aug. 28, 1979



cel

~  
~  
~



CONF010173

Aug 7, 78

I am writing this as requested in order to clarify a situation that happened at Scout camp the summer of 1977. [REDACTED] as I had decided to sleep and keep the fire going. Fall and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was sleeping on the bottom table under the tarp everybody was asleep except us three. Tom got up went over by [REDACTED] and sat down. I don't exactly what happened to him. But he got up and went his tent. Then [REDACTED] came over and sat by me. He stated making more advances at some, he got up called him a couple of names and I he said let this be mine and your little secret and got up and laid back down on the picked table and told tom and the morning we told [REDACTED] Scouts on the way back home.

[REDACTED]



CONF010175

September 25, 1978

[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear [REDACTED]

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should not be accepted. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations that you may have with Boy Scouts of America.

You should understand that BSA leadership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to refuse registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of leadership which BSA seeks to provide for American youth. Please also understand that this decision and the reasons for it will be maintained as confidential.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA leader should be granted or reinstated.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
Council President

J.M.H:ame

CONF010176

September 27, 1978

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Director of Registration and Subscription Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

Dear Paul:

It is the desire of our Council to refuse registration for [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] has been registered in various units in the past and has again applied for registration in yet another unit which we are denying.

According to information received in our Council, Mr. [REDACTED] has been sexually involved with boys while associated in units within our Council. However, none of those involved would provide us with a statement of the facts but they did refuse him the opportunity to reregister with their units.

In 1977 yet another situation developed. Upon hearing of the alleged problem we investigated but unit leadership declined to provide a written statement of the facts but they, too, removed him from their troop. Recently he applied for a position as Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 154. I did not process his application and returned to his former unit and explained the situation and after much pleading, did receive four statements, copies of which are attached.

Upon receiving the statements, I reviewed them with our Council President Leo M. MacCourtney and Council Commissioner Dr. George Hill. We all were in total agreement that he should not be registered.

We are currently in the process of "hand delivering" the letter to [REDACTED] a copy of which is attached. As soon as this step is completed we shall forward a report on the meeting as well as the completed "Confidential Record Sheet".

Please feel free to advise us in anyway.

Sincerely,

WRC:ame  
cc: Wayne Taylor  
East Central Region

[REDACTED]  
"Council Executive"

CONF010177



A program for Cub Sc\_\_\_\_\_ Scouts, and Explorers

National Office—Boy Scouts of America

North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

[REDACTED]

October 6, 1978

Mr. [REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Tri-State Council, No. 672

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joel R. [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of September 27, and the details concerning the above Scouter. We are holding this information pending and enclosing a confidential record sheet.

Please complete and return this record sheet to us, as soon as possible. This will help us to identify this individual should he again attempt to register in the Scouting program.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Paul F. [REDACTED]  
Registration & Subscription Service

af  
encl.

CONF010178

October 9, 1978

Mr. Paul I. Ernst  
Director of Registration and Subscription Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

Dear Paul:

You have received earlier correspondence from our council relating to our not registering Joel R. Gilpin.

[REDACTED] our Council Commissioner, and I met with Mr. [REDACTED] on Saturday morning, October 7, 11 a.m. at [REDACTED] office. The letter from our Council President [REDACTED] was delivered to Mr. [REDACTED] and was followed by remarks from [REDACTED] explaining the council's decision. No charges or accusations were made as per the instructions.

Mr. [REDACTED] asked for the reasons. [REDACTED] asked him if he knew why we were not registering him and Mr. [REDACTED] answered, "I think I do but I want to hear them from you". We explained to Mr. [REDACTED] that at no time would we release the names of our source of information and again explained that Scouting has the right and responsibility of selecting the best leadership available. We informed Mr. [REDACTED] that it was our hope that the matter could be closed with our meeting with him, as any further participation by him in Scouting would require additional steps and might not allow the matter to be kept totally private.

Mr. [REDACTED] first reaction was that of indifference as he indicated that he would continue regardless of his registration status but as the conversation progressed, he seemed to accept the decision that he was not to participate. However, neither [REDACTED] nor I am totally convinced that he will not make an effort to continue his association with the local troop which may require additional action with the sponsor and troop committee.

I now plan to return his registration fee to the Scouting Coordinator [REDACTED] as he was the individual who submitted the application and fee. No accusations will be made when the fee is refunded other than the fact that the council has met with Mr. Gilpin and his registration has not been accepted. I have personally discussed the matter with the Scouting Coordinator, [REDACTED] and he indicates that he will abide by our decision.

CONF010179

Mr. Paul I. Ernst

Page 2

Also enclosed with this letter is the report requested. If additional information is needed, please let me know. We have made every effort to follow the directions as received earlier.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive

WRC:ame

Encl: 1

cc: [REDACTED]  
East Central Region

CONF010180

## CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Appendix A

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE October 9, 1978FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(No initials if you can possibly give full name)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY Ashland STATE Kentucky ZIP CODE 41101DATE OF BIRTH 2/8/54 (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE \_\_\_\_\_ (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION \_\_\_\_\_ NATIONALITY U. S. CitizenOCCUPATION Student in \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital School of NursingEDUCATION \_\_\_\_\_ School, Ashland, KentuckyWEIGHT 160 HEIGHT 5' 10" RACE WhiteCOLOR OF HAIR Black COLOR OF EYES Wears glasses

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIED OR SINGLE Single CHILDREN -WIFE'S NAME -SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:UNIT #      CITY      STATE      OFFICE      DATE REGISTERED      DATE RESIGNEDSPECIAL RECOGNITION Eagle Scout - Vigil in Order of the Arrow

## SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Advances made to Scout at summer camp

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND  
ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE  
OR SPECULATION):

Statements previously mailed to Registration.

Signed

R. Robert Clegg

SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council Tri-State Area Council #672

CONF010181

October 16, 1978

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Latlettsburg, Kentucky 41129

Dear Mark:

Enclosed is a refund check for \$3.30. As you know, we are not accepting the registration of Mr. Joel R. Gilpin thus I am returning the refund to you for you are the one who turned in the fee.

[REDACTED] and I met with Mr. Gilpin recently and discussed the matter of his registration with him.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact our Council President [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], our Council Commissioner Dr. [REDACTED], or myself. Our goal is to have the best possible leadership in Scouting on all levels.

Sincerely,

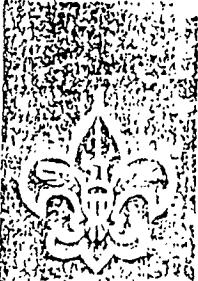
[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive

WRC:ame

Encl: Check

cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

CONF010182



A program for Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers

National Office—Boy Scouts of America

North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

[REDACTED]

December 6, 2978

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Tri-State Council, No.672

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joel R. Gilpin

Dear [REDACTED]

We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and placed this man on the Confidential File. Your efforts in this area are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Paul I. Ernst*  
Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration & Subscription Service

af

CONF010183

[REDACTED]  
Billings, MT 59102

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director, BSA

[REDACTED]  
Irving, TX 75062

Dear Mr. Ernst,

Having written you on May 5, 1983 to request initiation of the review process regarding the refusal of my application for membership, I was requested by you, via Billings Scout Exec. [REDACTED] to "present my side of the story."

My presentation was received by you on August 8, 1983 and as of today, I have yet to hear of any official decision that can be reduced to writing relative the issue at hand.

Feeling that ample time has been allowed for your review of the matter, I hereby request an official written statement be issued to me so that I may learn of my status with the BSA.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

cc: [REDACTED]

✓ J. E. V. ✓ D. H. E. ✓  
1/27/84 - 83 ✓ P. R. ✓  
T. P. ✓ P. S. ✓ J. M. ✓  
J. M. ✓ J. M. ✓

W. T. E. ✓  
M. S. T. ✓ E. I. N. D. E. ✓  
P. M. ✓ L. E. E. K. ✓

SEP 8 1983

CONF010184

June 13, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director  
National Office - BSA

[REDACTED]  
Irving, TX 75062-1296

Dear Mr. Ernst,

Having known [REDACTED] for some 14 years, it would be an injustice to say we know each other - more honestly, we have grown up together, hold no secrets from each other and still, though he is in Billings, Montana, stay in touch on a regular basis with each other.

He has informed me of his present difficulties in registering with the Boy Scouts of America and, from the onset, let me say you are mistaken if any faith is put in what happened back here in the Tri-State Area Council years ago. I know as I was a Scout at the time of the incident and a member of Troop 148.

Personal feelings put aside, objectively, I know Joel was an excellent Scout Leader. During the time of our Scouting association, he came in contact with thousands of Scouts and in some way had to have a good affect on them - as a Scout, Eagle Scout, Scout leader, Order of the Arrowman, OA Lodge Chief, Camp Staff member and in numerous other positions. Many years of hard work were put into Scouting by Joel only to be treated in a "less than honorable" way by the same people whom he had helped so much.

I find out now that he is having to fight again the same battle that he fought years ago with the Council - accusations that he attempted to have a sexual relationship with a Scout, the interviews that he had to go through in order to clear himself, only to have the Council change its mind for no apparent reason and kick him out. Many lies were told and they are still lies.

As a father now, I'm really aware of being careful who I let take care of my child - I love my child and want nothing to happen. I wouldn't have a second thought about Joel taking care of my youngster and have no doubt he can serve very well as a Scout leader coming in contact with boys on a regular basis.

I'm an Eagle Scout much because of what Joel did for and with me. I'm also Joel's very personal friend. I want it known that I'll help Joel clear his name no matter what it takes and hope that by your reviewing the facts, and not the accusations, that you, too, will see him as a good man and one that can be trusted. Scouting will benefit by him being a member.

I want to thank you for allowing me to express myself and don't hesitate to get ahold of me if I can answer any questions.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Ashland, KY 41101

[REDACTED]

10/10/83

CONF010185

[REDACTED] Name  
[REDACTED] na 59102

August 1, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director  
National Office - BSA

[REDACTED]  
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

[REDACTED]  
Dear Sir,

As per instructions from Mr. [REDACTED] Billings, Montana Scout Executive of the Montana Council, Boy Scouts of America, enclosed are letters and copies of documents for your use in reviewing the decision of the BSA to deny my request for registration in Scouting.

In 1976, while an adult leader of [REDACTED] Ashland, KY, of the Tri-State Area Council #672, of Huntington, WV, I was accused by three Scouts of that Troop of misconduct involving one Scout, the other two Scouts having observed my alleged actions. Parents, then Troop and, ultimately, Council officials were made aware of the allegations which resulted in an indepth investigation of myself. The accusing Scouts' names were never made known to me nor was I suspended from Scouting activities during the time of the investigation.

On August 25, 1976, I was officially notified by the Tri-State Area Council that it was their decision that the allegations and accusations were without merit, not true, and I was invited to continue in Scouting. (See enclosure #1).

The entire incident was in no way confidential. Having held positions in many local, council, as well as regional levels, this story was passed around and retold many times and I, personally, had many direct inquiries relative to it. The investigation process had aroused questions in many minds and the incident was discussed amongst Scouts as well as the Scout leaders. However, when Tri-State Area Council reached its decision clearing me of the allegations, the decision was low-keyed and not made as well known as the accusations. Stories continued to be told and questions asked, all in ignorance of the actions and decision of the Council.

For me, the incident was personally embarrassing, humiliating and had an emotional impact on myself as well as my family. I attempted to continue in Scouting, as well as its related activities such as the Order of the Arrow, but was constantly finding myself in situations in which remarks were being made. Seemingly, no explanation would suffice, such that in June, 1977, I was asked to leave my "staff advisor assignments" within the OA Lodge. (See enclosure #2).

Shortly after, due to my reluctance to step aside from those positions for the reason given, I was removed from the Troop Poster of Scouting [REDACTED] (See enclosure #3). I immediately replied (See enclosure #4) and at that time or thereabouts, became active with [REDACTED] Ashland, KY, in an unofficial capacity.

The Scoutmaster [REDACTED] knew of my difficulties and the circumstances surrounding them and he and I, close friends, had a gentleman's agreement that I would be permitted to remain active in the role of Assistant Scoutmaster until any problems developed by way of Scout accusations, parental disagreement, etc. I remained active with [REDACTED] until nearly June, 1980, when I moved away from Kentucky. To my knowledge, other than pressure being placed on the Scoutmaster by Tri-State Area Council due to my presence, no problems arose from my being [REDACTED]

associated with the Troop. During that time, however, Tri-State Area Council continued to persecute me and, in September, 1978, discharged me from the Scout Council and its related activities. (See enclosure #5).

Having reached the end of my ability to cope with the entire situation, finding the whole affair both emotionally and psychologically exhausting as well as being a full time, self-supporting college student in the medical profession, I elected to pursue the matter no further and declined to reply.

It was clearly spelled out, as seen in "5, that the "reasons for it will be maintained as confidential". Neither then, nor at any time before or after the #5 communication was there any indication to me that the matter had progressed past the local council level such as to a regional or national office.

Living in Billings, Montana from June, 1980, through June, 1981, I became active in Scout Troop 394 and served as Assistant Scoutmaster. Registration was never attempted as I saw that a move back to Kentucky would be forthcoming. During my time with the Troop, no difficulties were encountered nor accusations made.

Returning to Kentucky and staying until October, 1982, to assist in my family owned business, no attempts were made by myself to become active in Scouting. I was approached on several occasions by past Scouting acquaintances who inquired as to my status with Tri-State Area Council, the resolution of the earlier investigation, etc. Seemingly, the story had never died out, six years after the alleged incident in which I was supposed to have taken part.

Upon my father's retirement and selling of his business, I returned to Billings, Montana, in October, 1982. I resumed my position in the field of professional emergency care and also resumed my position as Assistant Scoutmaster and Committee member of [REDACTED] becoming quite active in the planning and operation of the 25 Scout member unit..I have attended meetings, counseled Scouts, driven Scouts to activities and participated in overnight camping trips with the Scouts. Since October, I have developed a good working relationship with both the Scouts as well as the leaders of Scout [REDACTED] who included my name in their re-registration process in February, 1983.

In February, 1983, I began the application process and was interviewed as a potential participant in the "Big Brother" program of Billings. In this, less fortunate youth are matched with proper and suitable adults who serve as role models for the youngster. A minimum of four hours per week of a mostly 1-to-1 relationship is required. In March, I was officially "matched" with a 13 year old boy who, as it has turned out, has developed a rather solid friendship with me much to the pleasure of his single parent.

On May 2, 1983, I was requested by [REDACTED] Scoutmaster to see [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the Billings Scout office and appointment was made for May 5. On May 3, I was contacted by the Executive Director of Big Brothers, Billings office, for a conference on May 6.

On May 5, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Scout Executive of the Billings office of the Montana Council of the Boy Scouts of America, informed me he had been instructed, in writing, by the national office of the BSA to refuse my request for membership in the BSA, that he had previously informed the 4 key leaders of Scout [REDACTED] of the directive and that none of them were aware of any reason for it. He refused my request then, and at a later date, for my review of the written directive. This

was the first indication to me that the 1976 incident had been carried further than the Tri-State Area Council.

Later that evening, after a [REDACTED] committee meeting, I informed the 4 key leaders of the unit of the circumstances surrounding the directive. They were shocked, to say the least. It was decided as a group that their support would be offered me in my decision to officially challenge the attitude of the BSA based on the 1976 incident. On May 6, my request for the initiation of the review process was mailed and was received on May 10, 1983. The 4 key leaders of Troop 394, those men whose sons I have direct contact with, followed up with their letter of support on May 16, 1983. (See enclosure #6). To this day, I have yet to hear directly from the BSA but rather, have been given replies "second hand" via Billings Area Exec. [REDACTED]

The following day, after the meeting with [REDACTED] Ferguson, on May 6, the Executive Director of the Big Brothers organization and several of the Exec. Board members informed me they had been contacted by a representative of the Boy Scouts of America relative to my being denied registration, explained they felt it to have a direct relationship to my being a participant in their youth oriented program and requested an explanation. Subsequently, I was placed on probation with that program and have had the watch of myself and my "little" suspended, visitations being prohibited, until this Scouting issue is resolved. Mr. Dan Ferguson admitted to notifying the Big Brother office and this was confirmed by a representative of that organization.

Mr. Ernst, let us put a few things in perspective:

- 1) In 1976, it was decided after an extensive investigation by Tri-State Area Council, that the allegations against me were without merit and untrue.
- 2) Immediately after the initial accusations, action was taken by Tri-State Area Council in response to the specific alleged misconduct, demonstrating they can, and do, act promptly and appropriately when given a specific complaint. However, for two more years, I was badgered by the Council in an attempt to have me quit the BSA. There not being any actions by myself to warrant another immediate response or dismissal, it was obviously decided to make my Scouting experience tumultuous in an attempt to remove me from Tri-State Area Council.
- 3) At no time was I informed not to register in the Boy Scouts of America, except in the Tri-State Area Council.
- 4) It was never indicated to me that the details or any information relative to the incident were passed to a regional and/or national office of the BSA.
- 5) It was indicated to me, however, that the incident and reasons for the decision dismissing me from Tri-State Area Council would be maintained as confidential.
- 6) Tri-State Area Council, over a period of 25 months, verbally and in writing, abused me emotionally, psychologically and personally as a Scouter as well as an individual.
- 7) A representative of the Boy Scouts of America contacted the office of Big Brothers relative to the denial of BSA membership and the implications thereof, with that organization suspending me from their program based on information received as a direct result of that Scouting representative contact. No accusations,

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Page Four

insinuations or allegations from the youth or his family had been offered, rather, a solid friendship had been established, only to be suddenly suspended.

8) The Boy Scouts of America continue to persecute me even in the face of personal, Scout, Scouter and Troop Leader support that has been offered on my behalf in the past as well as the present, seven years from the time of the alleged incident.

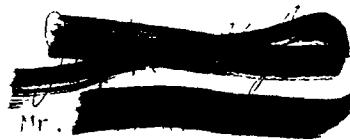
9) Please refer to the personal letter enclosed. This letter is sent from an individual that has known me for many years and is more aware of my personal character than anyone else. He is concerned that this matter be justly resolved and a decision be made in my favor.

10) The Scoutmaster in Ashland, KY, with whom I had the agreement to assist in the face of the ongoing controversy, has recently indicated to me that he will confirm the facts, if contacted, that there were no difficulties in my participating in Scouting with the youths in his Troop and that Tri-State Area Council did, indeed, place tremendous pressure upon him for allowing me to participate in the Troop. I'll provide name and address upon request.

I trust, Mr. Ernst, that these documents will be carefully reviewed, that the implications and insinuations will be analysed and the legal ramifications studied. It is not my desire to involve the BSA in litigation concerning the matter. I am simply wanting to offer my skills and talents, expertise and experience to Scouting. It has been proven of late date that I am capable of offering these, as well as a positive image, to youths and that those adults who are associated with me in Scouting at present are in support of me, being aware of this matter at hand. What more can I present you?!

Need I say more? Let these facts speak for themselves in order that the file concerning the 1976 incident in which I was involved be forever closed and registration be offered me now in the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,



Mr. [REDACTED]

CONF010189

August 25, 1976

To: [REDACTED] Council President  
[REDACTED] Commissioner, Scout Executive

From: [REDACTED] Commissioner, Council Commissioner  
[REDACTED] Commissioner, Field Director

Re: Alleged homosexual activities of:

Joel R. Gilpin

[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

After thorough review of key Kentucky District volunteers and an indepth interview with Mr. Gilpin, it is our conclusion that the allegations by the three boys of Troop [REDACTED] without merit.

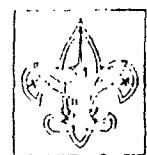
Further, we instructed Mr. Gilpin to continue his Scouting activities and cautioned him that in the future he should address himself to always maintain a Scout leader/boy relationship verses a friendship relationship.

[REDACTED]  
8/25/76

[REDACTED]  
8/25/76

CONF010190

State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America



2

June 27, 1977

Mr. [REDACTED]

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear Joel:

In view of the current situation, I feel that it is in the best interest of our O. A. Lodge that I relieve you of all your staff advisor assignments. This is being done to promote harmony within our boy-run organization.

Please accept my thanks for your past leadership.

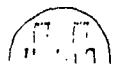
Sincerely,

[Signature]  
[REDACTED]  
Richard Billups  
Boy Advisor

BB:aine

cc: [REDACTED] by

[REDACTED]  
W.C.



CONF010191



State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America

October 12, 1977

M

3

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear Joel:

[REDACTED] is requested that you be removed from their Troop roster for reasons of which you are aware.

Enclosed is a check for \$4.50 which covers a full refund for your adult registration and O.A. dues.

You no longer should be involved with Scouting or its related activities such as the Order of the Arrow.

I am sure that you understand the situation and that no further action will be necessary.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Field Director

HDCJH:ame

cc: [REDACTED]

2v

CONF010192

Ashland, KY  
October, 20, 1977

Huntington, W.Va. 25701

Dear [REDACTED]

Enclosed you'll find the check for \$4.50 sent to me recently which I am returning. I will not accept it as such action on my part would imply that I am guilty of wrongdoings, which I am not.

To my knowledge, no official of [REDACTED] has asked that my name be removed from the roster. Please check your source if you feel this is not true.

Concerning your command that I drop out of Scouting and Order of the Arrow activities, I will not do so at this time with the implications you have made in your letter of October 12.

Why? The last correspondence I had was from you and [REDACTED] in August of 1976 which cleared me of all allegations of my being a homosexual. Now, out of the "clear blue sky" you strongly urge, almost demand, that I quit, that I know why, and that no further action will be necessary.

Whatever happened to the ideal that one is innocent until proven guilty? Is it to be attempted to oust me from Scouting without so much as a hearing at which time I could present my arguments? You and Tri State Area Council were to be making some rather harsh insuations without all the facts.

For the record, I had planned to let my registration expire this coming March and not be active—not even visit-in anything Scouting. I have not been for three months, nor plan to be until March, active in any way whatsoever in Scouting. But now, I have no choice than to be active in some small way until March to signify that I am not allowing myself to be dropped from Scouting by the local Council.

CONF010193

Should you wish to make amends, a letter stating that I am not being "kicked out" will go nicely. I will not be intimidated - we are dealing with defamatory of character, namely mine.

I trust you can see my point of view and will take the necessary steps to correct the accusing attitude conveyed to me in your letter. Until then, I remain

In Scouting,

[REDACTED]



Ti. State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America

September 25, 1978

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear M

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should not be accepted. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations that you may have with Boy Scouts of America.

You should understand that BSA leadership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to refuse registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of leadership which BSA seeks to provide for American youth. Please also understand that this decision and the reasons for it will be maintained as confidential.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA leader should be granted or reinstated.

Sincerely yours,

Council President

LMM:ame



CONF010195

6

[REDACTED] St.  
[REDACTED] Irving, Tex. 75062

May 16, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director, Boy Scouts of America  
[REDACTED]

Irving, Tex. 75062

Dear Mr. Ernst:

We, the undersigned are parents of six boys in Scout [REDACTED] here in Billings. We are the only members of the troop aware of [REDACTED]'s problems in a previous scout troop. We write to offer our support of [REDACTED], who has been an adult leader in our troop for some time now, and on two different occasions. We find no reason in his actions and behavior towards us to bar him from participation in scouting and we support his efforts to clear his name. We also ask that you expedite your decision, since the busiest time of the year for scout activities is upon us, and we would value Joel's participation in those activities. I think that you would agree that an active leader's failure to participate in such activities might raise some questions in the minds of others in the troop who are unaware of his problems now.

[REDACTED] rejected the charges against him verbally to us, and has written to your office to initiate steps to clear his name. He has been a valuable asset to our troop showing good leadership qualities to the boys, has been active in troop committee work, and has given us no reason to question his integrity. An adult leader in scouting must be the sort of individual in whom parents and other scouts can unequivocally entrust the physical and mental well-being of their children. Joel has given us no reason to question that trust. He has been that rare individual who has given freely and generously of his time, even though he has no children of his own in the troop.

We have not discussed this matter with anyone else in the troop, and are writing on our own initiative as individuals. We hope you will expedite your consideration of his case, review all the facts, and revise your restrictions on his participation in scouting. Thank you.

[REDACTED] Committee Chair

[REDACTED] Scoutmaster

[REDACTED] Constitutional Rep

[REDACTED] Richard P. [REDACTED] Scoutmaster

CONF010196

[REDACTED]  
Billings, Montana 59102  
May 5, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director  
National Office - BSA

[REDACTED]  
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Dear Sir,

Recently, during the re-registration process of the Scout Troop with which I am associated, my application for membership in the Boy Scouts of America was refused. This decision was relayed from a BSA national office to the local council, being based on allegations/accusations stemming from an incident several years ago while in Scouting in another council.

It is my desire to challenge this decision relative to my participation in the Scouting movement. This recent registration denial being the first official notification to me that I will not be permitted to register, it is my intention to pursue this matter at the earliest possible date.

Please outline for me the process which I need to complete in order to have the BSA's decision reviewed and, hopefully, reversed. Include, also, any forms necessary for the same.

Thanking you for your time and assistance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*Jeff K. Kilby*  
[REDACTED]

cc: [REDACTED] aster  
[REDACTED] Montana Council

[REDACTED] Executive, BSA  
[REDACTED] Service District

[REDACTED] Committee Chmn.  
[REDACTED] Montana Council

CONF010197

April 21, 1983

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Montana Council, No. 315

Ready for file  
APR 21 1983  
[REDACTED]

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Charlie:

We recently received a phone call from your office concerning [REDACTED] and the omission of [REDACTED] from the roster for this troop. Mr. Gilpin was omitted because you told us that he was the same man as one we have on our Confidential File and we, therefore, refused registration. A credit notice is attached returning his fee.

We have also sent you a credit notice at this time for two subscriptions to Boys' Life. You over paid at the time you registered this unit.

If there are further questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

nah

Attachments

cc: [REDACTED] North Central Region  
[REDACTED] Director, North Central Region

CONF010198

COUNCIL #

CALLER

UNIT #

DIST. #

EXP. DATE

TRANSMITTAL #

FILM #

10183

In the  
there?  
yes

✓ Committee  
✓ cause  
✓ C

PROBLEM (S)

REGISTRATION \_\_\_\_\_

VETERANS \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLORING \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUTING \_\_\_\_\_

BOYS' LIFE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [REDACTED] \_\_\_\_\_

Credit issued 142968

Form letter

Sent

R/S-433  
8/23/82-nah

4-20-83  
Maine

NAME John

DATE 8-23-82

April 14, 1983

Mr. [REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Montana Council, No. 315

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the return of the confidential inquiry concerning Joel R. Gilpin. We are refusing registration at this time based on the information which you have given us. Mr. Gilpin was placed on the Confidential File in 1978 and we feel that he should not have association with youth at this time.

A credit notice is attached returning the \$5.00 fee which was sent to us.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] t, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

ekb

Attachment

cc: [REDACTED] Central Region

Mr. Robert [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Director, North Central Region

READY TO FILE

4/14/1983

[REDACTED]

CONF010200

December 6, 1978

[REDACTED]  
Scout Executive  
Tri-State Council, No.672

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joel R. Gilpin

Dear [REDACTED]:

We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and placed this man on the Confidential File. Your efforts in this area are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration & Subscription Service

af

CONF010201



tri-State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America

October 9, 1978

Mr. Paul I. Ernst  
Director of Registration and Subscription Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

Dear Paul:

You have received earlier correspondence from our council relating to our not registering J. [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] our Council Commissioner, and I met with Mr. [REDACTED] Saturday morning, October 7, 11 a.m. at [REDACTED]'s office. The letter from our Council President [REDACTED] was delivered to Mr. [REDACTED] and was followed by remarks from [REDACTED] explaining the council's decision. No charges or accusations were made as per the instructions.

[REDACTED] asked for the reasons. [REDACTED] asked him if he knew why we were not registering him and Mr. [REDACTED] answered, "I think I do but I want to hear them from you". We explained to [REDACTED] that at no time would we release the names of our source of information and again explained that Scouting has the right and responsibility of selecting the best leadership available. We informed Mr. [REDACTED] that it was our hope that the matter could be closed with our meeting with him, as any further participation by him in Scouting would require additional steps and might not allow the matter to be kept totally private.

Mr. [REDACTED]'s first reaction was that of indifference as he indicated that he would continue regardless of his registration status but as the conversation progressed, he seemed to accept the decision that he was not to participate. However, neither [REDACTED] nor I am totally convinced that he will not make an effort to continue his association with the local troop which may require additional action with the sponsor and troop committee.

I [REDACTED] to return his registration fee to the Scouting Coordinator of [REDACTED] as he was the individual who submitted the application and fee. No accusations will be made when the fee is refunded other than the fact that the council has met with Mr. [REDACTED] and his registration has not been accepted. I have personally discussed the matter with the Scouting Coordinator, [REDACTED] and he indicates that he will abide by our decision.



A UNITED

CONF010202

Page 2

Mr. Paul I. Ernst

Also enclosed with this letter is the report requested. If additional information is needed, please let me know. We have made every effort to follow the directions as received earlier.

Sincerely,

  
Scout Executive

WRC:ame

Encl: 1

cc: [REDACTED] Taylor  
East Central Region

CONF010203

October 6, 1978

Mr. [REDACTED] R. Cree  
Scout Executive  
Tri-State Council, No. 672

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joel W. Gilpin

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of September 27, and the details concerning the above Scouter. We are holding this information pending and enclosing a confidential record sheet.

Please complete and return this record sheet to us, as soon as possible. This will help us to identify this individual should he again attempt to register in the Scouting program.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration & Subscription Service

af  
encl.

CONF010204

Tri-State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America



September 27, 1978

Co 612

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Director of Registration and Subscription Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

Dear Paul:

It is the desire of our Council to refuse registration for [REDACTED]. Mr. [REDACTED] has been registered in various units in the past and has again applied for registration in yet another unit which we are denying.

According to information received in our Council, Mr. [REDACTED] has been sexually involved with boys while associated in units within our Council. However, none of those involved would provide us with a statement of the facts but they did refuse him the opportunity to reregister with their units.

In 1977 yet another situation developed. Upon hearing of the alleged problem we investigated but unit leadership declined to provide a written statement of the facts but they, too, removed him from their troop. Recently he applied for a position as Assistant Scoutmaster in [REDACTED]. I did not process his application and returned to his former [REDACTED] and explained the situation and after much pleading, did receive four statements, copies of which are attached.

Upon receiving the statements, I reviewed them with our Council President [REDACTED] and Council Commissioner Dr. [REDACTED]. We all were in total agreement that he should not be registered.

We are currently in the process of "hand delivering" the letter to Mr. [REDACTED], a copy of which is attached. As soon as this step is completed we shall forward a report on the meeting as well as the completed "Confidential Record Sheet".

Please feel free to advise us in anyway.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Scout



WRC  
CC:  
Region

CONF010205

September 25, 1978

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101  
[REDACTED]

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should not be accepted. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations that you may have with Boy Scouts of America.

You should understand that BSA leadership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to refuse registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of leadership which BSA seeks to provide for American youth. Please also understand that this decision and the reasons for it will be maintained as confidential.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA leader should be granted or reinstated.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED] President

JMM:arne

CONF010206

August 28, 1978

To: Tri-State Area Council-BSA

From: Gordon Scott, Scoutmaster-Troop 148

Subject: Incident at Arrowhead-Summer Camp, July 15, 1977

[REDACTED] attended Summer Camp at Arrowhead the week of July 10, 1977. I was the only adult leader, with fourteen boys.

[REDACTED] was a registered Assistant Scoutmaster at the time, however, he had been inactive. [REDACTED] had volunteered to bring a pick-up truck up Friday night, July 15th, and take a load of gear back Saturday when camp was over.

Joel arrived Friday night, with [REDACTED] who was also a registered Scout in our Troop. I offered [REDACTED] the empty bunk in my tent, but he said he would rather sleep on the picnic table under the tarp, so [REDACTED] slept in my tent.

When I went to sleep, [REDACTED] was in bed on the picnic table, and several Scouts were sitting around the camp fire.

The following morning we broke camp, attended retreat and started home. The following story was told on the way home.

[REDACTED] said that he [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had ended up in their sleeping bags by the fire the night before and had intended to spend the night there. [REDACTED] said he was telling me because the boys were embarrassed to tell me. Tom was present at the incident but he did not see what went on and he did not hear all of the conversation, but [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had told him about it later.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] gotten up during the night and came over to the fire and sat down beside Lawrence. Joel put his hands in the sleeping bag and ran them up and down [REDACTED]. He did the same thing to [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] had left. After [REDACTED] left, [REDACTED] went to his tent also.

The statements of the three Scouts are attached.

When I talked to Joel about this he denied it emphatically.

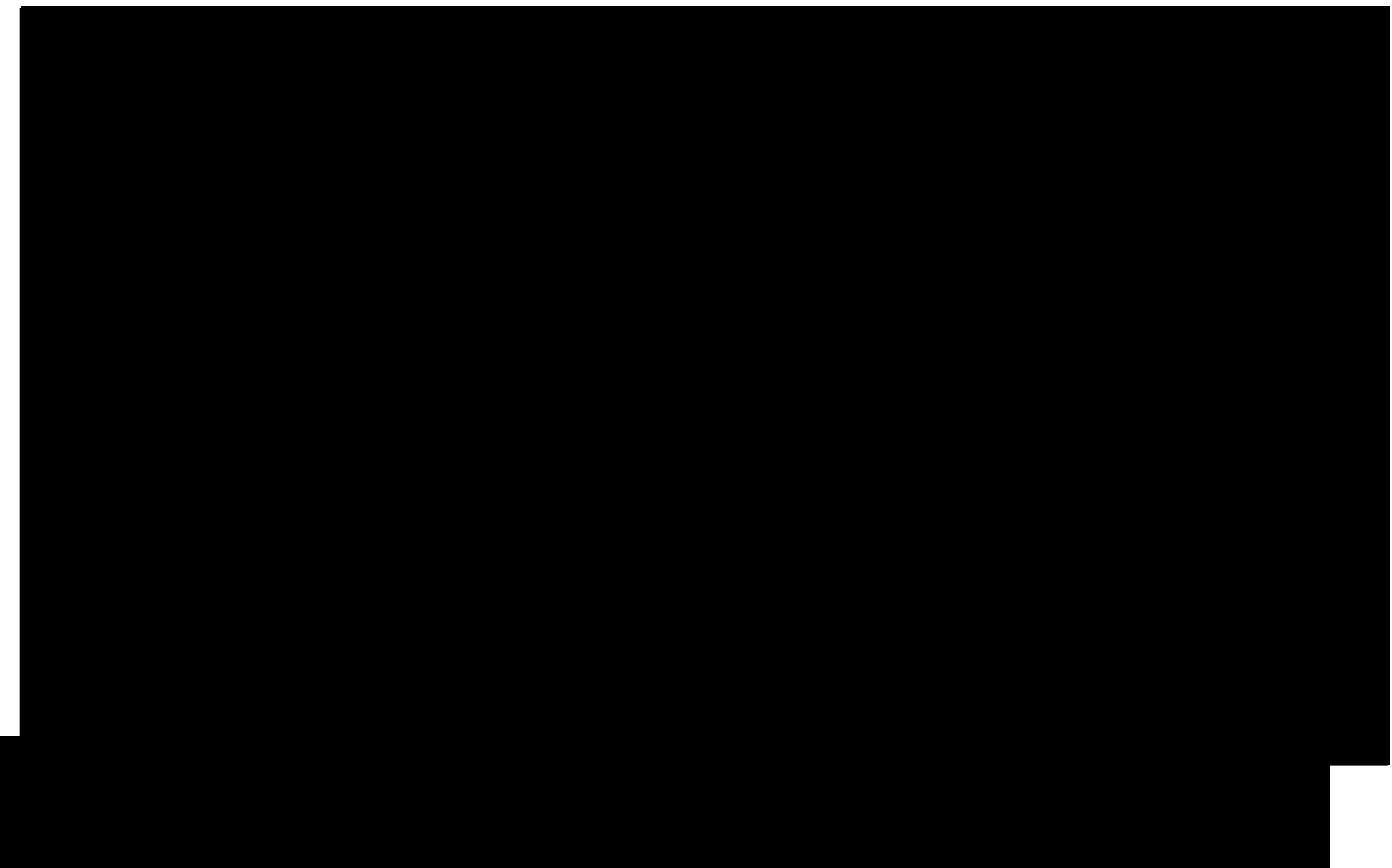
I told Joel that I did not want him to participate in any troop activities and that I would not reregister him when our Charter expired 3-31-78. Joel said he would be going to school full time and did not plan to reregister. I contacted all Scouts and parents of the Troop and told them Joel would be involved in no Troop activities, and would be dropping out of Scouting to attend school full time.

I personally feel that Joel Gilpin should not be an adult volunteer in the Scouting program.

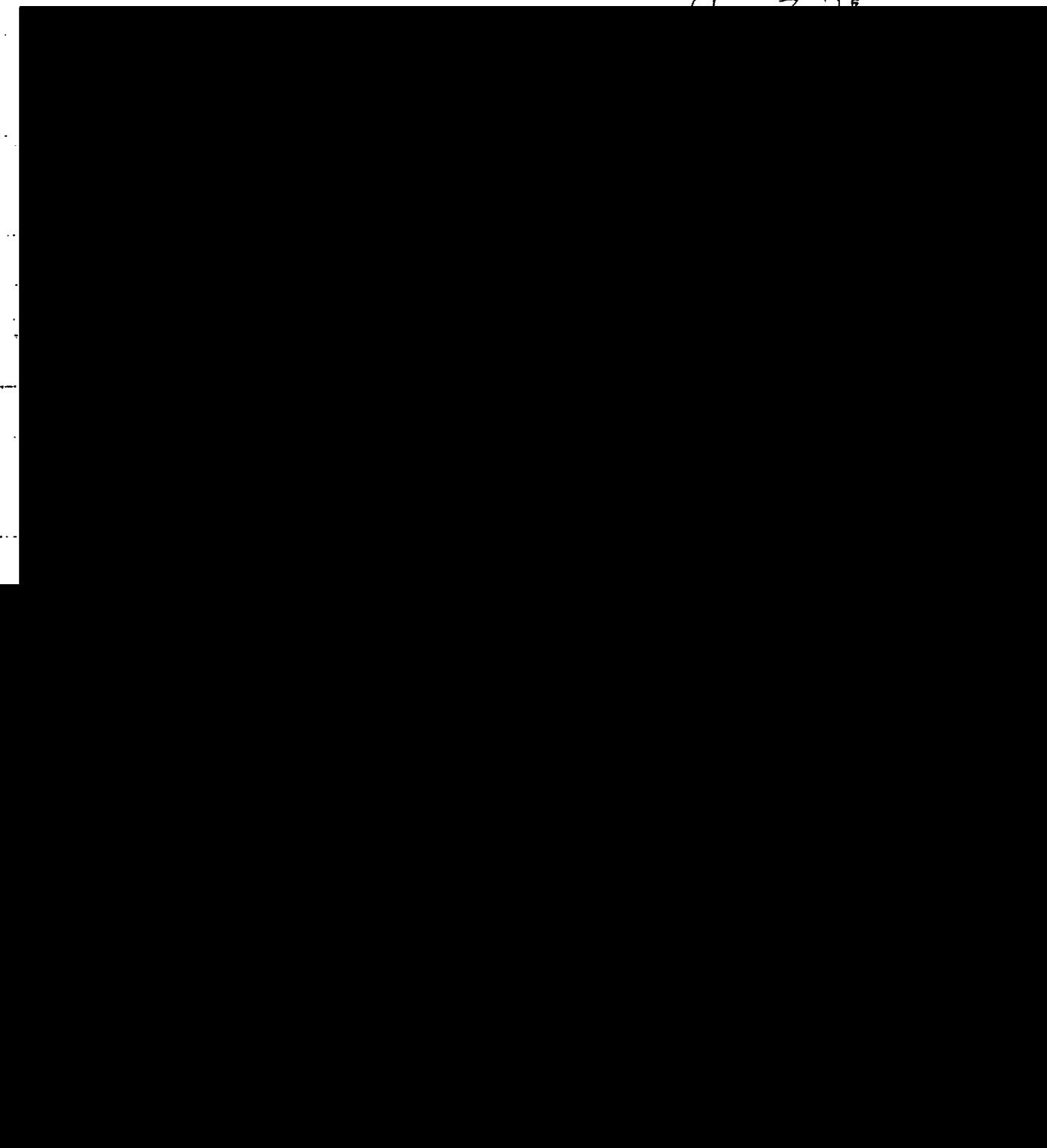
CONF010207

Aug. 29, 1975

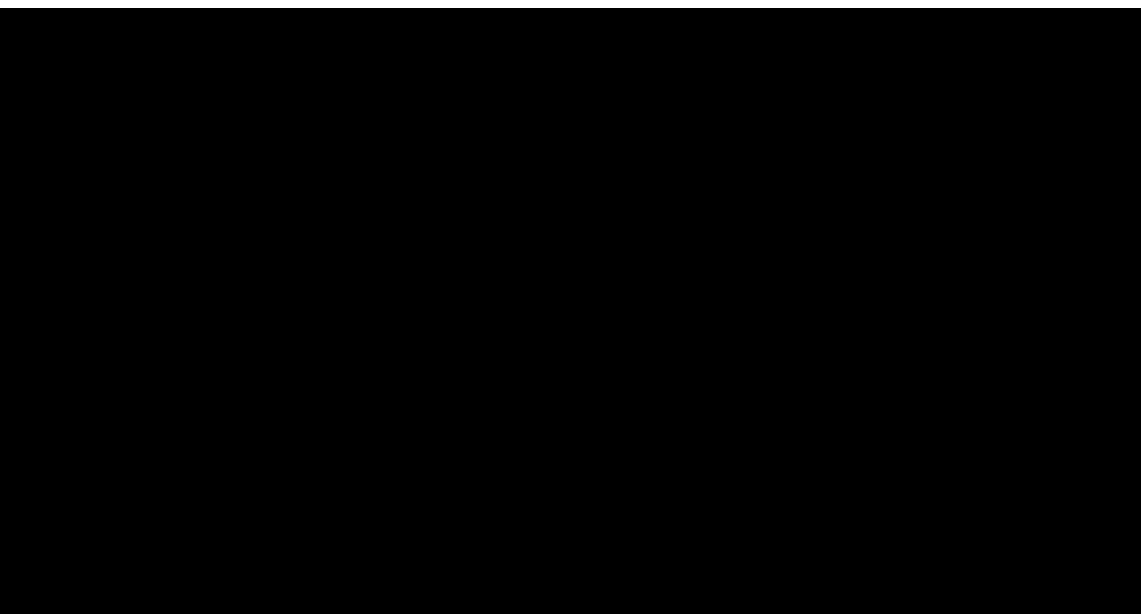




CONF010209



CONF010210



CONF010211

Co - 315

## ADULT APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT ONE LETTER IN EACH SPACE—PRESS HARD, YOU ARE MAKING THREE COPIES  
NAME—PRINT FIRST NAME FIRST, LEAVE SPACES BETWEEN FIRST NAME, INITIAL, AND LAST NAME

PACK NO. [REDACTED]  
 TROOP NO. [REDACTED]  
 POST NO. [REDACTED]  
 SHIP NO. [REDACTED]

OR

 COUNCIL/DISTRICT POSITION

DISTRICT NO. 12 FULLY TRAINED

J D E L R [REDACTED]

DATE OF BIRTH POSITION  
02 54 SA  
MO. DAY YR. UNIT CODE

ADDRESS—STREET OR R.F.D. COLLEGE SCOUTER RESERVE—USE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS AT COLLEGE

BOYS' LIFE CHECK ONE  
 NEW LEADER  
 FORMER LEADER

CITY

BILLINGS

STATE

MT 59102

ZIP CODE

SEX

CIRCLE B or H

B [REDACTED] H

PHONE

DATE

PREVIOUS SCOUTING BACKGROUND

COUNCIL

UNIT COPY

Montana Council  
Council 315

OCCUPATION, EMPLOYER, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS

SIGNATURE—SEE COVER

REGISTRATION FEE \$ 5.00

BOYS' LIFE FEE \$

TERM (MONTHS)

UNIT EXPIRATION DATE  
MONTH YEAR

If applicant has an unexpired membership certificate, registration may be accomplished in this unit by a payment of 50 cents for processing the transfer. Check the box and attach certificate. It will be returned by the council.

APPROVAL—SEE COVER

FOR COUNCIL USE

Batch #4 Feb Bus.

## NOTIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

COUNCIL NO.	DISTRICT NO.	UNIT
315	12	T-394

DATE 3/10/83

Did this man ever attend a nursing school? Yes  
 Did he live in Ashland Ky. in 1978? Yes  
 Was he ever in any other Council before? Yes  
 Is this man's date of birth 2/8/54? Yes

SCOUT [REDACTED]

Same Man

POSITION SA

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

Refused Reg -

TELEPHONE NO. [REDACTED]

BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102  
 Lived in Ashland, Kentucky in 1978? YES NO  
 Is first or middle name Joel R. ? YES NO  
 Full name Joel R. [REDACTED] yes  
 First [REDACTED] Middle [REDACTED] Last [REDACTED]  
 Exact age 29 Single XX How long married? [REDACTED]  
 Spouse's name [REDACTED]  
 Children ?? Names and ages? [REDACTED]

Education High School Where Blazer, Ashland Ky.  
 Occupation Was male nurse? [REDACTED]

Race	White	Red	2 wears glasses
Hair	brown	brown	brown
	blond	blue	blue
Eyes	black	hazel	hazel
	gray	green	green
		black	black
		gray	gray

Height 5' 10" Weight 160 lbs

Date 1/1/83

Signature [REDACTED]

Scout Executive

—ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN SHADED AREAS AND AS MANY OTHERS AS POSSIBLE—

[REDACTED]  
Billings, Mont. 59102

May 16, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director, Boy Scouts of America  
[REDACTED]

Irving, Tex. 75062

Dear Mr. Ernst:

We, the undersigned are parents of six boys in [REDACTED] here in Billings. We are the only members of the troop aware of Joel's problems in a previous scout troop. We write to offer our support of Mr. [REDACTED], who has been an adult leader in our troop for some time now, and on two different occasions. We find no reason in his actions and behavior towards us to bar him from participation in scouting and we support his efforts to clear his name. We also ask that you expedite your decision, since the busiest time of the year for scout activities is upon us, and we would value Joel's participation in those activities. I think that you would agree that an active leader's failure to participate in such activities might raise some questions in the minds of others in the troop who are unaware of his problems now.

Joel has rejected the charges against him verbally to us, and has written to your office to initiate steps to clear his name. He has been a valuable asset to our troop showing good leadership qualities to the boys, has been active in troop committee work, and has given us no reason to question his integrity. An adult leader in scouting must be the sort of individual in whom parents and other scouts can unequivocally entrust the physical and mental well-being of their children. Joel has given us no reason to question that trust. He has been that rare individual who has given freely and generously of his time, even though he has no children of his own in the troop.

We have not discussed this matter with anyone else in the troop, and are writing on our own initiative as individuals. We hope you will expedite your consideration of his case, review all the facts, and revise your restrictions on his participation in scouting. Thank you.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Committee Chmn

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Institutional Rep

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Scoutmaster  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Asst Scoutmaster

F. STARON

CONF010213

[Redacted] Billings, Montana 59102  
August 1, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director  
National Office - BSA  
1325 Walnut Hill Lane  
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Dear Sir,

As per instructions from [Redacted] Billings, Montana Scout Executive of the Montana Council, Boy Scouts of America, enclosed are letters and copies of documents for your use in reviewing the decision of the BSA to deny my request for registration in Scouting.

In 1976, while an adult leader of Scout [Redacted], Ashland, KY, of the Tri-State Area Council #672, of Huntington, WV, I was accused by three Scouts of that Troop of misconduct involving one Scout, the other two Scouts having observed my alleged actions. Parents, then Troop and, ultimately, Council officials were made aware of the allegations which resulted in an indepth investigation of myself. The accusing Scouts' names were never made known to me nor was I suspended from Scouting activities during the time of the investigation.

On August 25, 1976, I was officially notified by the Tri-State Area Council that it was their decision that the allegations and accusations were without merit, not true, and I was invited to continue in Scouting. (See enclosure #1).

The entire incident was in no way confidential. Having held positions in many local, council, as well as regional levels, this story was passed around and retold many times and I, personally, had many direct inquiries relative to it. The investigation process had aroused questions in many minds and the incident was discussed amongst Scouts as well as the Scout leaders. However, when Tri-State Area Council reached its decision clearing me of the allegations, the decision was low-keyed and not made as well known as the accusations. Stories continued to be told and questions asked, all in ignorance of the actions and decision of the Council.

For me, the incident was personally embarrassing, humiliating and had an emotional impact on myself as well as my family. I attempted to continue in Scouting, as well as its related activities such as the Order of the Arrow, but was constantly finding myself in situations in which remarks were being made. Seemingly, no explanation would suffice, such that in June, 1977, I was asked to leave my "staff advisor assignments" within the OA Lodge. (See enclosure #2).

Shortly after, due to my reluctance to step aside from those positions for the reason given, I was removed from the Troop [Redacted] (See enclosure #3). I immediately replied. (See enclosure #4) and at that time or thereabouts, became active with [Redacted] Ashland, KY, in an unofficial capacity.

The Scoutmaster of Troop 154 knew of my difficulties and the circumstances surrounding them and he and my close friends, had a gentleman's agreement that I would be permitted to remain active in the role of Assistant Scoutmaster until any problems developed by my Scout accusations, parental disagreement, etc. I remained active with [Redacted] until nearly June, 1980, when I moved away from Kentucky. To my knowledge, other than pressure being placed on the Scoutmaster by Tri-State Area Council due to my presence, no problems arose from my being

associated with the Troop. During that time, however, Tri-State Area Council continued to persecute me and, in September, 1978, discharged me from the Scout Council and its related activities. (See enclosure #5).

Having reached the end of my ability to cope with the entire situation, finding the whole affair both emotionally and psychologically exhausting as well as being a full time, self supporting college student in the medical profession, I elected to pursue the matter no further and declined to reply.

It was clearly spelled out, as seen in #5, that the "reasons for it will be maintained as confidential". Neither then, nor at any time before or after the #5 communication was there any indication to me that the matter had progressed past the local council level such as to a regional or national office.

Living in Billings, Montana from June, 1980, through June, 1981, I became active in Scout Troop 394 and served as Assistant Scoutmaster. Registration was never attempted as I saw that a move back to Kentucky would be forthcoming. During my time with the Troop, no difficulties were encountered nor accusations made.

Returning to Kentucky and staying until October, 1982, to assist in my family owned business, no attempts were made by myself to become active in Scouting. I was approached on several occasions by past Scouting acquaintances who inquired as to my status with Tri-State Area Council, the resolution of the earlier investigation, etc. Seemingly, the story had never died out, six years after the alleged incident in which I was supposed to have taken part.

Upon my father's retirement and selling of his business, I returned to Billings, Montana, in October, 1982. I resumed my position in the field of professional emergency care and also resumed my position as Assistant Scoutmaster and Committee member of Troop 394, becoming quite active in the planning and operation of the 25 Scout member unit. I have attended meetings, counseled Scouts, driven Scouts to activities and participated in overnight camping trips with the Scouts. Since October, I have developed a good working relationship with both the Scouts as well as the leaders of Scout Troop 394 who included my name in their re-registration process in February, 1983.

In February, 1983, I began the application process and was interviewed as a potential participant in the "Big Brother" program of Billings. In this, less fortunate youth are matched with proper and suitable adults who serve as role models for the youngster. A minimum of four hours per week of a mostly 1-to-1 relationship is required. In March, I was officially "matched" with a 13 year old boy who, as it has turned out, has developed a rather solid friendship with me much to the pleasure of his single parent.

On May 2, 1983, I was requested by [REDACTED] Scoutmaster to see Mr. Dan Ferguson in the Billings Scout office and appointment was made for May 5. On May 3, I was contacted by the Executive Director of Big Brothers, Billings office, for a conference on May 6.

On May 5, [REDACTED], Scout Executive of the Billings office of the Montana Council of the Boy Scouts of America, informed me he had been instructed, in writing, by the national office of the BSA to refuse my request for membership in the BSA, that he had previously informed the 4 key leaders of [REDACTED] the directive and that none of them were aware of any reason for it. He refused my request then, and at a later date, for my review of the written directive. This

was the first indication to me that the 1976 incident had been carried further than the Tri-State Area Council.

Later that evening, after a [REDACTED] committee meeting, I informed the 4 key leaders of the unit of the circumstances surrounding the directive. They were shocked, to say the least. It was decided as a group that their support would be offered me in my decision to officially challenge the attitude of the BSA based on the 1976 incident. On May 6, my request for the initiation of the review process was mailed and was received on May 10, 1983. The 4 key leaders o [REDACTED] those men whose sons I have direct contact with, followed up with their letter of support on May 16, 1983. (See enclosure #6). To this day, I have yet to hear directly from the BSA but, rather, have been given replies "second hand" via Billings Area Exec. [REDACTED].

The following day, after the meeting with [REDACTED] on May 6, the Executive Director of the Big Brothers organization and several of the Exec. Board members informed me they had been contacted by a representative of the Boy Scouts of America relative to my being denied registration, explained they felt it to have a direct relationship to my being a participant in their youth oriented program and requested an explanation. Subsequently, I was placed on probation with that program and have had the match of myself and my "Little" suspended, visitations being prohibited, until this Scouting issue is resolved. Mr. Dan Ferguson admitted to notifying the Big Brother office and this was confirmed by a representative of that organization.

Mr. Ernst, let us put a few things in perspective:

- 1) In 1976, it was decided after an extensive investigation by Tri-State Area Council, that the allegations against me were without merit and untrue.
- 2) Immediately after the initial accusations, action was taken by Tri-State Area Council in response to the specific alleged misconduct. demonstrating they can, and do, act promptly and appropriately when given a specific complaint. However, for two more years, I was badgered by the Council in an attempt to have me quit the BSA. There not being any actions by myself to warrant another immediate response or dismissal, it was obviously decided to make my Scouting experience tumultuous in an attempt to remove me from Tri-State Area Council.
- 3) At no time was I informed not to register in the Boy Scouts of America, except in the Tri-State Area Council.
- 4) It was never indicated to me that the details or any information relative to the incident were passed to a regional and/or national office of the BSA.
- 5) It was indicated to me, however, that the incident and reasons for the decision dismissing me from Tri-State Area Council would be maintained as confidential.
- 6) Tri-State Area Council, over a period of 25 months, verbally and in writing, abused me emotionally, psychologically and personally as a Scouter as well as an individual.
- 7) A representative of the Boy Scouts of America contacted the office of Big Brothers relative to the denial of BSA membership and the implications thereof, with that organization suspending me from their program based on information received as a direct result of that Scouting representative contact. No accusations,

insinuations or allegations from the youth or his family had been offered, rather, a solid friendship had been established, only to be suddenly suspended.

8) The Boy Scouts of America continue to persecute me even in the face of personal, Scout, Scouter and Troop leader support that has been offered on my behalf in the past as well as the present, seven years from the time of the alleged incident.

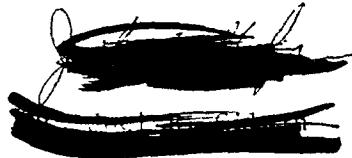
9) Please refer to the personal letter enclosed. This letter is sent from an individual that has known me for many years and is more aware of my personal character than anyone else. He is concerned that this matter be justly resolved and a decision be made in my favor.

10) The Scoutmaster in Ashland, KY, with whom I had the agreement to assist in the face of the ongoing controversy, has recently indicated to me that he will confirm the facts, if contacted, that there were no difficulties in my participating in Scouting with the youths in his Troop and that Tri-State Area Council did, indeed, place tremendous pressure upon him for allowing me to participate in the Troop. I'll provide name and address upon request.

I trust, Mr. Ernst, that these documents will be carefully reviewed, that the implications and insinuations will be analysed and the legal ramifications studied. It is not my desire to involve the BSA in litigation concerning the matter. I am simply wanting to offer my skills and talents, expertise and experience to Scouting. It has been proven of late date that I am capable of offering these, as well as a positive image, to youths and that those adults who are associated with me in Scouting at present are in support of me, being aware of this matter at hand. What more can I present you?!

Need I say more? Let these facts speak for themselves in order that the file concerning the 1976 incident in which I was involved be forever closed and registration be offered me now in the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,



August 25, 1976

To: [REDACTED] President  
[REDACTED] See, Scout Executive

From: [REDACTED] Council Commissioner  
[REDACTED] Harry W. Field Director

Re: Alleged homosexual activities of:  
Joel R. Gilpin  
[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

After thorough review of key Kentucky District volunteers and an indepth interview with Mr. Gilpin, it is our conclusion that the allegations by the three boys of Troop 148 are without merit.

Further, we instructed Mr. Gilpin to continue his Scouting activities and cautioned him that in the future he should address himself to always maintain a Scout leader/boy relationship verses a friendship relationship.

R [REDACTED]  
8/25/76

Jim [REDACTED]

8/25/76

CONF010218



State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America

2

June 27, 1977

Mr. Joel [REDACTED]

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear Joel:

In view of the current situation, I feel that it is in the best interest of our O. A. Lodge that I relieve you of all your staff advisor assignments. This is being done to promote harmony within our boy-run organization.

Please accept my thanks for your past leadership.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
D. C. [REDACTED]  
Jay Advisor

BB:ame

cc: [REDACTED] gray  
J. [REDACTED] Oct  
[REDACTED] Martney  
W. [REDACTED]  
C. [REDACTED]

(FBI)

CONF010219

Tri-State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America



October 12, 1977

Mr. [REDACTED]

3

[REDACTED]  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear Joel:

Troop [REDACTED] requested that you be removed from their Troop roster for reasons of which you are aware.

Enclosed is a check for \$4.50 which covers a full refund for your adult registration and O.A. dues.

You no longer should be involved with Scouting or its related activities such as the Order of the Arrow.

I am sure that you understand the situation and that no further action will be necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in ink, appearing to read "W. R. Courtney".

Field Director

HDCIII:ame

cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
W. R. Courtney

(P. R.)

CONF010220

Ashland, R.I.  
October, 20, 1977

H.D. Corey III  
Tri-State Area Council

Huntington, W.Va. 25701

Dear Mr. Corey,

Enclosed you'll find the check for \$4.50 sent to me recently which I am returning. I will not accept it as such action on my part would imply that I am guilty of wrongdoings, which I am not.

To my knowledge, no official of [REDACTED] has asked that my name be removed from the roster. Please check your source if you feel this is not true.

Concerning your command that I drop out of Scouting and Order of the Arrow activities, I will not do so at this time with the implications you have made in your letter of October 12.

Why? The last conference I had was from you and Mr. [REDACTED] in August of 1976 which cleared me of all allegations of my being a homosexual. Now, out of the "clear blue sky" you strongly urge, almost demand, that I quit, that I know why, and that no further action will be necessary.

Whatever happened to the ideal that one is innocent until proven guilty? Is it to be attempted to oust me from Scouting without so much as a hearing at which time I could present my arguments? You and Tri State Area Council seem to be making some rather harsh insuations without all the facts.

For the record, I had planned to let my registration expire this coming March and not be active-not even visit-in anything Scouting. I have not been for three months, nor plan to be until March, active in any way whatsoever in Scouting. But now, I have no choice than to be active in some small way until March to signify that I am not allowing myself to be dropped from Scouting by the local Council.

CONF010221

Should you wish to make amends, a letter stating that I am not being "kicked out" will do nicely. I will not be intimidated- we are dealing with defamation of character, namely mine.

I trust you can see my point of view and will take the necessary steps to correct the accusing attitude conveyed to me in your letter. Until then, I remain

In Scouting,

A horizontal redaction mark consisting of several thick, dark horizontal strokes, obscuring a handwritten signature.



State Area Council, No. 672, Boy Scouts of America

September 25, 1978

Mr. [REDACTED]

5

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear [REDACTED]:

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should not be accepted. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations that you may have with Boy Scouts of America.

You should understand that BSA leadership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to refuse registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of leadership which BSA seeks to provide for American youth. Please also understand that this decision and the reasons for it will be maintained as confidential.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA leader should be granted or reinstated.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

LMM:ame



CONF010223

6  
[REDACTED]  
Billings, Mont. 59102

May 16, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director, Boy Scouts of America  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Irving, Tex. 75062

Dear Mr. Ernst:

We, the undersigned are parents of six boys in [REDACTED] here in Billings. We are the only members of the troop aware of Joel Gilpin's problems in a previous scout troop. We write to offer our support of Mr. Gilpin, who has been an adult leader in our troop for some time now, and on two different occasions. We find no reason in his actions and behavior towards us to bar him from participation in scouting and we support his efforts to clear his name. We also ask that you expedite your decision, since the busiest time of the year for scout activities is upon us, and we would value Joel's participation in those activities. I think that you would agree that an active leader's failure to participate in such activities might raise some questions in the minds of others in the troop who are unaware of his problems now.

Joel has rejected the charges against him verbally to us, and has written to your office to initiate steps to clear his name. He has been a valuable asset to our troop showing good leadership qualities to the boys, has been active in troop committee work, and has given us no reason to question his integrity. An adult leader in scouting must be the sort of individual in whom parents and other scouts can unequivocally entrust the physical and mental well-being of their children. Joel has given us no reason to question that trust. He has been that rare individual who has given freely and generously of his time, even though he has no children of his own in the troop.

We have not discussed this matter with anyone else in the troop, and are writing on our own initiative as individuals. We hope you will expedite your consideration of his case, review all the facts, and revise your restrictions on his participation in scouting. Thank you.

[REDACTED]  
Chmn

Gar [REDACTED] onal Rep

[REDACTED]  
Scoutmaster

[REDACTED]  
Asst Scoutmaster

CONF010224

June 13, 1983

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Registration Director  
National Office - BSA

[REDACTED]  
Irving, TX 75062-1296

Dear Mr. Ernst,

Having known Joel Gilpin for some 14 years, it would be an injustice to say we know each other - more honestly, we have grown up together, hold no secrets from each other and still, though he is in Billings, Montana, stay in touch on a regular basis with each other.

He has informed me of his present difficulties in registering with the Boy Scouts of America and, from the onset, let me say you are mistaken if any faith is put in what happened back here in the Tri-State Area Council years ago. I know as I was a Scout at the time of the incident and a member of Troop 148.

Personal feelings put aside, objectively, I know Joel was an excellent Scout Leader. During the time of our Scouting association, he came in contact with thousands of Scouts and in some way had to have a good affect on them - as a Scout, Eagle Scout, Scout leader, Order of the Arrowman, OA Lodge Chief, Camp Staff member and in numerous other positions. Many years of hard work were put into Scouting by Joel only to be treated in a "less than honorable" way by the same people whom he had helped so much.

I find out now that he is having to fight again the same battle that he fought years ago with the Council - accusations that he attempted to have a sexual relationship with a Scout, the interviews that he had to go through in order to clear himself, only to have the Council change it's mind for no apparent reason and kick him out. Many lies were told and they are still lies.

As a father now, I'm really aware of being careful who I let take care of my child - I love my child and want nothing to happen. I wouldn't have a second thought about Joel taking care of my youngster and have no doubt he can serve very well as a Scout leader coming in contact with boys on a regular basis.

I'm an Eagle Scout much because of what Joel did for and with me. I'm also Joel's very personal friend. I want it known that I'll help Joel clear his name no matter what it takes and hope that by your reviewing the facts, and not the accusations, that you, too, will see him as a good man and one that can be trusted. Scouting will benefit by him being a member.

I want to thank you for allowing me to express myself and don't hesitate to get ahold of me if I can answer any questions.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
215 [REDACTED] Ave.  
Ashland, KY 41101

J. [REDACTED] R. [REDACTED] re/act/sa

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